

THE CIA INQUIRY

THE proposed study of the Central Intelligence Agency by the Hoover Commission is a sensible move, and the choice of Gen. Mark Clark to head the project is especially appropriate.

If Sen. McCarthy got loose in the CIA, the results would be as calamitous as the free-wheeling of a bull in a china shop. For the CIA necessarily deals in fragile wares—highly secret and sensitive matters vitally important to the security of the nation. What Sen. McCarthy could do to the whole CIA set-up, under the guise of searching for communists, is dreadful to contemplate.

Granted that the super-secret agency could do with a little more supervision or at least a check-up of its reputedly costly administration, it is still a field that should be closed off to any blunderbuss expedition. For one thing, the CIA co-operates intimately and profitably with the intelligence arms of dozens of our allies. This co-operation would evaporate the minute Sen. McCarthy started spilling secrets, little or big, and the door would be closed to us on much that constantly goes on in the nether world of intrigue and conspiracy.

Gen. Clark, who is no stranger to secret missions and inter-allied co-operation in two wars, should be highly suitable for the delicate task involved. And the reputation of the Hoover Commission for wisdom and integrity of its previous governmental studies should be warranty enough of whatever recommendations it may have concerning the CIA.

- News -

Hoover Plans Study of CIA By Gen. Clark

Dulles 'Welcomes' Autumn Project by Reorganization Unit

By the Associated Press

The supersecret Central Intelligence Agency is in line for scrutiny by the Hoover Reorganization Commission.

Former President Hoover, head of the Commission on Organization of the Executive Branch of the Government, announced yesterday retired Gen. Mark Clark would head a commission "task force" to study CIA's structure and administration. No details of the study were given.

No Link to Charges.

Gen. Clark, now president of The Citadel, a military college, said in Charleston, S. C., he knew of "no connection" between the new project and last month's announcement by Senator McCarthy, Republican, of Wisconsin, that his Senate Investigations subcommittee was conducting a preliminary investigation of "what looks like a very, very dangerous situation in the CIA."

Senator McCarthy has several times charged that Communists infiltrated the hush-hush intelligence organization and he has tangled with Allen Dulles, CIA head and brother of the secretary of state.

Senator Clark said Mr. Hoover's job was to study ways to improve executive agencies and presumably the CIA "just happened to be next on the list."

Dulles Welcomes Plan.

Mr. Dulles announced he "welcomes" the Hoover project.

Like its predecessor which Mr. Hoover headed in 1947-50, the present Hoover commission is charged with recommending organizational changes in Government agencies to improve their efficiency, economy and service. It was not set up to investigate wrongdoing, as was the McCarthy group.

Gen. Clark said he felt qualified for the job because of his past Government service in Europe and the Far East. He will probably get together with Mr. Hoover in September, he said, to talk over specific details of the planned study.

Leaving for Brazil.

Gen. Clark said he will pick a group for his "task force" but has no one on it now and no one particular in mind.

He said he is leaving shortly for Brazil with Mrs. Clark for a vacation trip. The general said the work would not interfere with his duties as president of The Citadel.